

News briefs

'Dress and appearance tips' clarification

The Oct. 11 Eifel Times article should be amended to read as follows: wear of the watch cap ... "may be worn in the immediate work area, and appropriate winter garments must be worn when wearing the cap."

In reference to the back pack, change to read "can be carried in either hand unless on crutches or riding a two-wheeled vehicle and should not interfere with giving a proper salute." (*Note: This change was implemented Feb. 1, 2001, by message and is not reflected in the current Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel*)

Recruiter duty

Air Force Recruiting Service's Recruiter Screening Team conducted its regularly scheduled visit recently at the base theater.

Air Force members who may have missed the team's visit do not have to wait for the next visit to apply for recruiter duty. Information about recruiting and the application for duty can be found online at www.rs.af.mil/RST.htm.

Senior airman selects through master sergeants with less than 16 years service may apply. For more information, visit the Web site or call the recruiting screening team at DSN 314-487-3511.

Community Bank hours

Both branches of Community Bank have shortened operating hours Tuesday. The Bitburg Annex branch opens 10 a.m. to noon. The Spangdahlem Air Base branch opens 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Contracting office closure

The 52nd Contracting Squadron closes Thursday at noon and all day Oct. 25 to move into its new facility in Bitburg Annex building 2007. For contracting emergencies during this time, call Master Sgt. Robert Swett at 0160-9186-4426 or 1st Lt. Brett Kayes at 0170-811-6076.

USAFE news

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld announced Oct. 10 that the president made the following nomination: Lt. Gen. Glen W. Moorhead III has been nominated for the assignment as commander, NATO Allied Air Forces South and commander, 16th Air Force, Aviano Air Base, Italy. Moorhead is currently serving as the U.S. Air Forces in Europe vice commander. (USAFE News Service)

MPF reduced manning

The Military Personnel Flight experiences reduced manning in certain sections Oct. 30 and Nov. 6 for readiness training. However, the MPF will remain open during its normal operating hours both days.

GSA training conference

General Services Administration holds its Outreach Europe 2002 training conference and trade exposition at Heidelberg's Patrick Henry Village Pavilion, Oct. 28-31.

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Eifel Times

Vol. 36, Issue 38

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Oct. 18, 2002

Stealthy at Spangdahlem

An F-117A Nighthawk from the 9th Fighter Squadron at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., arrived at Spangdahlem Air Base Sunday for an exercise. Four aircraft and nearly 60 people deployed to support Operation Coronet Nighthawk. The exercise allows the U.S.-based Stealth Fighter aircrews an opportunity to familiarize themselves with Air Force operations in the European theater and allows U.S. Air Forces in Europe personnel to practice supporting the F-117. Operations, maintenance and security crews stationed in Europe will receive training opportunities to integrate with a unique aircraft they don't normally see. The deployment also gives F-117 aircrew the chance to receive instrument training in the area and practice international flight rules.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

'Team Eifel Ready' Spangdahlem to compete for Installation Excellence Award

By 2nd Lt. Gerardo D. Gonzalez
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Third Air Force officials selected Spangdahlem Air Base Sept. 30 to compete for the opportunity to represent U.S. Air Forces in Europe in the 2003 Commander-in-Chief Installation Excellence competition.

A team of four USAFE evaluators is scheduled to visit Spangdahlem (Oct. 31) and Incirlik air bases to determine which installation will represent the command at the Air Force level competition and have a chance at winning \$500,000.

"Spangdahlem won the 3rd AF nomination after base officials submitted a written package and photos of base accomplishments," said Capt. Allyson Miller, wing Installation Excellence Award point of contact.

The evaluators will conduct a first-hand observation of Spangdahlem AB programs that "create and sustain installation excellence."

Since there may not be a significant difference in accomplishments between Spangdahlem and Incirlik, the positive attitude Spangdahlem people show the evaluators will be vital, said Miller.

"That's what may put us over the top," said Miller.

Base appearance will also be a key factor, said Col. Stephen Mueller, 52nd Fighter Wing commander.

"I encourage everyone to get involved and look around their work areas to make sure everything looks sharp," said Mueller. "If you see something that is out of place or doesn't look good, please take the time to fix it."

"Attitude and appearance will win it for us," said Mueller.

Established by the president, the Installation Excellence Award recognizes the outstanding efforts of the people who operate and maintain Department of Defense installations and who have done the best with their resources to support the mission. Spangdahlem AB won the award previously in 1998.

Bazaar to feature something different for shoppers

By Suzanne Hunt
Eifel Holiday Bazaar 2002 publicity chair

The holiday season is only two months away, which for many means it's time to start shopping for those special gifts for loved ones.

Eifel Holiday Bazaar 2002 opens just in time for shoppers searching for something different. In addition, bazaar shoppers benefit base quality of life because money raised at the event goes back into the Eifel military community.

Event sponsors, the Officer's and Civilian's Spouses Club, look forward to a successful year. This year's event features more than 130 vendors from all over Europe. A lot of time and effort has been spent to ensure the event's success -- not just by the board members, but by everyone who has had anything to do with the event.

This year, the bazaar features eight new vendors, including Ozyesil Co. Ltd., House of 1,000 Clocks, Tree Full of Names, Country Primitives, Eschbachhof, Pack it in, Konrad W

Hofmann and Schuh-Menges- Birkenstock.

Returning vendors include Olga's Cheese, MK Mobel, Karl G. Scheffel, Beanies by Ulrike, Old Dutch Cheese, Zofia Exclusive Polish Pottery and Aviation Art.

Because of the enormity of the event, volunteers are always appreciated. Volunteers receive benefits, such as convenient parking during their scheduled shift and early shopping privileges, in addition to the satisfaction of helping to raise money for the community.

Volunteer positions include door security,

runners, vendor assistant, office assistant, kitchen host and closeout assistant.

People interested in volunteering should call Kelli Owens at 06571-147977 or e-mail kelli32365@aol.com. Potential volunteers may also call Anne Ramer at 06575 903855 or e-mail housecinc@aol.com.

Bazaar information

Eifel Holiday Bazaar 2002 takes place Nov. 15 from noon to 8 p.m., Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Nov. 17 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Hangars 1 and 2. No strollers are allowed.

Spang airmen receive nonjudicial punishment

(Editor's note: Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice does not specify particular punishments for any offense. Commanders considering nonjudicial punishment consider the nature of the offense; the record of the service member; the needs for good order and discipline; and the effect of nonjudicial punishment of the service member and the service member's record.)

During September, nine Spangdahlem Air Base airmen received nonjudicial punishment under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

■A senior airman violated Article 86 by failing to report to work on time. The commander imposed a suspended reduction to airman first class and a reprimand.

■A senior airman violated Article 128 by physically assaulting his spouse. The commander imposed a suspended

reduction to airman first class and 30 days extra duty.

■An airman first class violated Article 92 by failing to obey the dress and appearance standards on base. The commander imposed a suspended reduction to airman, 14 days restriction and a reprimand.

■An airman first class violated Article 86 by failing to report to work on time. The commander imposed a suspended reduction to airman and 30 days extra duty.

■An airman first class violated Article 134 by being drunk and disorderly. The commander imposed a suspended reduction to airman, forfeiture of \$200 for two months, 30 days extra duty, 30 days restriction and a reprimand.

■An airman first class violated Article 134 by being drunk and disorderly. The commander imposed a suspended reduc-

tion to airman, forfeiture of \$200 for two months, 30 days extra duty, 30 days restriction and a reprimand.

■An airman first class violated Article 134 by being drunk and disorderly. The commander imposed a suspended reduction to airman, 15 days extra duty, 15 days restriction and a reprimand.

■An airman violated Article 92 by failing to obey a lawful order given by a security forces NCO, Article 117 by using provoking words toward security forces members and Article 134 by displaying disorderly conduct on base. The commander imposed a reduction to airman basic and 21 days extra duty.

■An airman violated Article 117 by using provoking words toward a security forces member and Article 134 by displaying disorderly conduct on base. The commander imposed a suspended reduction to airman basic and 14 days extra duty.

Accidents

By Susanne A. Esch
52nd Security Forces Squadron
Reports and Analysis

Fifteen Team Eifel members experienced vehicle accidents in the past week, two of which were major.

■The first major accident happened outside the Spangdahlem Air Base main gate traffic circle. An airman said he lost control and struck a road sign as he was exiting the traffic circle adjacent to the gate. The rear passenger side tire assembly was damaged and the vehi-

cle was towed from the scene. There were no injuries.

■The second accident happened on A-485 near Giessen Army Post. An airman said he tried to slow his vehicle from 100 kph to 80 kph and hit a guardrail. He then crossed the road and hit the guardrail on the other side. The vehicle was damaged on both the driver and passenger sides and was towed from the scene.

The 13 minor accidents involved:

■Eight from inattentive driving

■Three while backing

■One fleeing the scene of the accident

In addition, 26 citations were issued.

Security forces reminds drivers that it is prohibited to pass any vehicle traveling on B-50, between Binsfeld and Bitburg, except for slow-moving vehicles. A slow-moving vehicle is defined as any vehicle traveling less than 40 kph. When passing slow-moving vehicles, drivers have the responsibility to do so only

where passing is safe and authorized by German traffic laws.

Any driver who violates the no-passing policy will have their driver's privileges suspended for seven days for the first offense and 30 days for a second offense.

Any driver causing a vehicle accident as a result of improper passing will have their driving privileges suspended for a minimum of 180 days.

In addition, four points will be assessed to the driving record for improper passing.

Air Force people benefit from new tuition policy

WASHINGTON -- Air Force people soon will benefit from a new Department of Defense tuition assistance policy that pays 100 percent of the cost of tuition for off-duty courses, according to Air Force education officials.

"The policy, effective Oct. 1, 2002, (pays) tuition costs and mandatory fees for up to a maximum of \$250 per semester hour, or \$750 per 3-hour course," said Jim Sweizer, chief of the Air Force voluntary education branch at the Pentagon. The policy also includes a \$4,500-per-year tuition assistance ceiling.

"In the past, we only paid instructional fees, such as a lab fee for science courses," Sweizer said. "Under the new policy, as long as the total cost falls under the authorized total, the student doesn't have to pay any money out of (his or her) pocket."

However, tuition assistance cannot be used to pay for textbooks unless they are included in an academic institution's published tuition rates, he said.

With 100 percent tuition assistance available to airmen, some people might opt to waive contributing to the Montgomery GI Bill, Sweizer said. He recommends bluesuiters continue to take advantage of the benefits the GI Bill presents.

"Not everyone will be able to complete his or her education while on active duty," he said. "Having the MGIB as an alternative for later use is a wise investment."

The increase to 100 percent tuition assistance was authorized by Congress two years ago but was not funded until fiscal 2003. The tuition assistance program is the same across the entire Defense Department. Each service had two years to develop a plan to make the programs work together.

Registration for University of Maryland Term II courses at Spangdahlem Air Base is currently ongoing. To register for classes or for more information regarding the new tuition assistance policy, call the education center at 452-6063.

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More than 200 displays will demonstrate products for security and force protection, dormitory, quarters and office furniture, fitness equipment and information technology. Training courses include ordering from GSA, purchase card training and security issues.

For more information or to register contact Thomas Meiron at DSN 330-6085/7985 or visit www.fss.gsa.gov/oe2002. Registration is free for military and U.S. federal civilians.

personal property found on or near Spangdahlem Air Base and the Bitburg Annex.

Some items include keys, jewelry, purses and bicycles. People missing any of these items or others can call the investigations section with a description of the items.

For more information, call 452-6160 or 452-7060.

ALS open house

The Pitsenbarger Airman Leadership School holds its fourth annual open house Nov. 12 from 3-4 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2002 on the third floor. Refreshments will be served and everyone is invited to attend.

Lost and found

The 52nd Security Forces Squadron investigations section is currently holding several items of

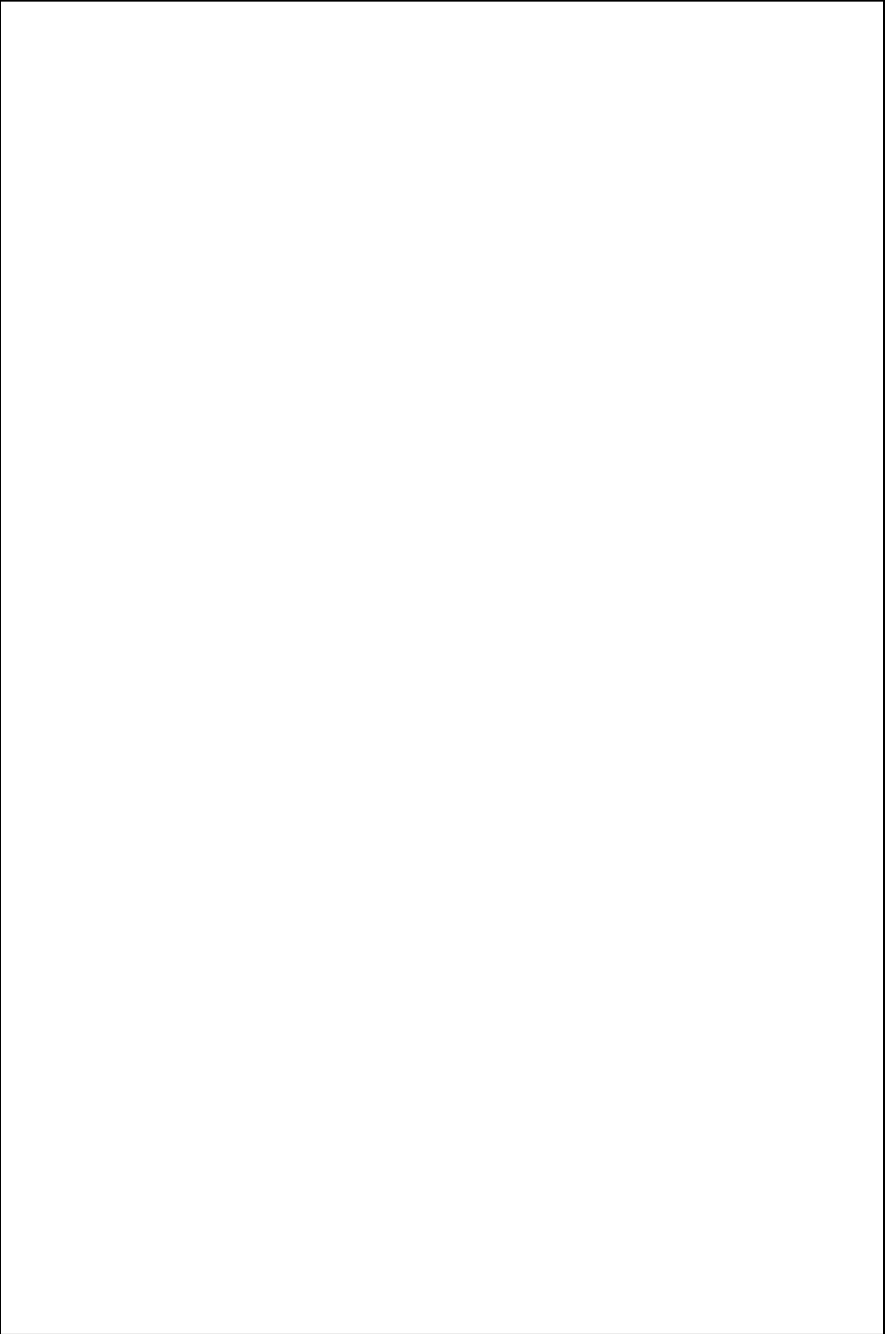


Illustration by Staff Sgt. Kimberly Drake

Road closure

Due to road upgrades to Mather Avenue, beginning Oct. 28 the only entrance to the Burger King parking lot will be through Arnold Boulevard. The only exception is for delivery trucks to Burger King and the Community Activities Center. The traffic map above depicts traffic flow during the closure time, which is expected to be about five months.

Wing squadron enlistments up by two in fourth quarter

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Daniel raised his right hand and carefully repeated the maintenance officer's words. His father, Staff Sgt. George Ray, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, stood as still and solemn to his left as the U.S. flag to Daniel's right. A sharp salute and a handshake later, and the recent Bitburg High School graduate looked forward to what he believes will be a brighter future for he and his new wife, Osiris.

After working for a year at the BXtra, Jennifer, at 20, looked forward to a life of travel, education opportunities and stability.

"My dad has that," she thought.

A conversation with the overseas Air Force recruiter and a few weeks later, Jennifer raised her right hand in an office of the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron heating and air conditioning operations section where her father works. She repeated the same words her father said for the first time 13 years ago.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Brown watched nearby to show his full support and how proud he was of his daughter and her decision.

Daniel and Jennifer are two of six 52nd Fighter Wing family members who enlisted in the U.S. Air Force on base this year. The parent's squadron is convenient for most new military family enlistees overseas because an officer must conduct the swearing in ceremony.

However, for Daniel and Jennifer, it was more than just meeting Air Force requirements. Jennifer's father influenced her to enlist at the HVAC shop.

"He thought it would be great to have his section commander, who is prior enlisted, to have the honor," she said.

Additionally, both Daniel and Jennifer said they felt honored to enlist at their parent's workplace.

"The difference between Daniel's enlistment and his father's is that Daniel was able to have his parents beside him to support him in his decision, even as he raised his right hand and made his decision final," said Daniel's mother, Michelle Ray.

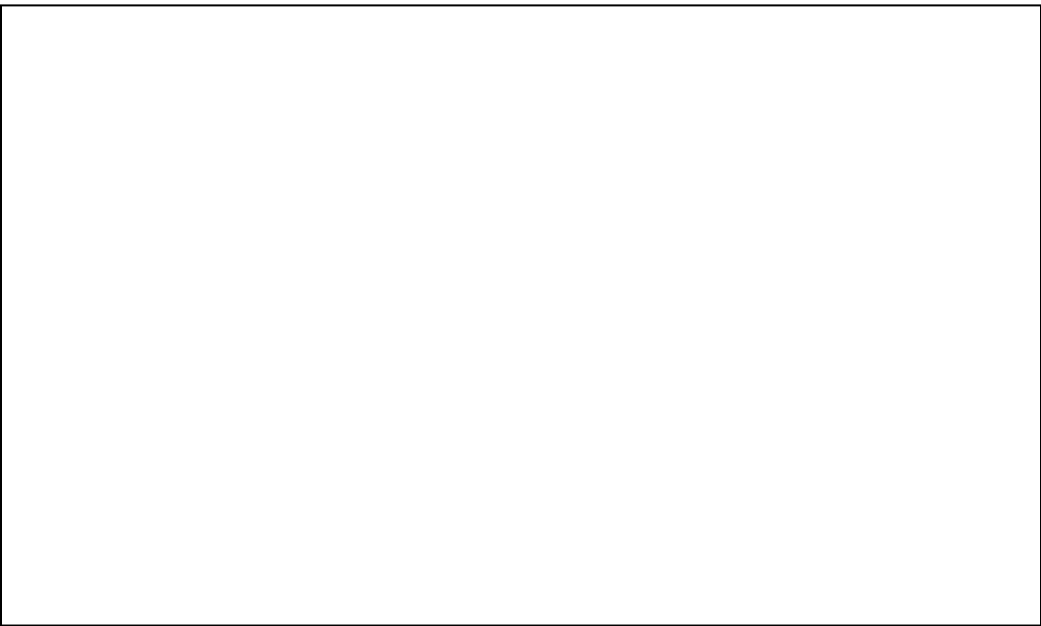
Another benefit of a squadron enlistment is the encouragement and advice that's inevitably shared at the after-enlistment celebration.

"I told her to make sure that she takes full advantage of all the educational opportunities that she can and to get involved in squadron activities," said Brown.

According to Tech. Sgt. Willie Watkins, enlisted accessions recruiter stationed at Kapaun Air Station, Germany, the Air Force's newest benefit - 100 percent tuition assistance - is the strongest draw for new enlistees.

For Daniel, tuition assistance is only one part of an appealing benefits package.

"I talked to a bunch of people and they told me they thought joining the Air Force is a



Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey

Tech. Sgt. Willie Watkins, enlisted accessions recruiter stationed at Kapaun Air Station, Germany, guides Daniel Ray as he signs his enlistment papers Oct. 3 as Ray's father, Staff Sgt. George Ray, 52nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, watches. Daniel, who recently graduated high school, looks forward to a brighter future in the Air Force for himself and his new wife, Osiris.

good idea. Whether you're a cook or a doctor, everyone earns the same benefits from housing to medical care."

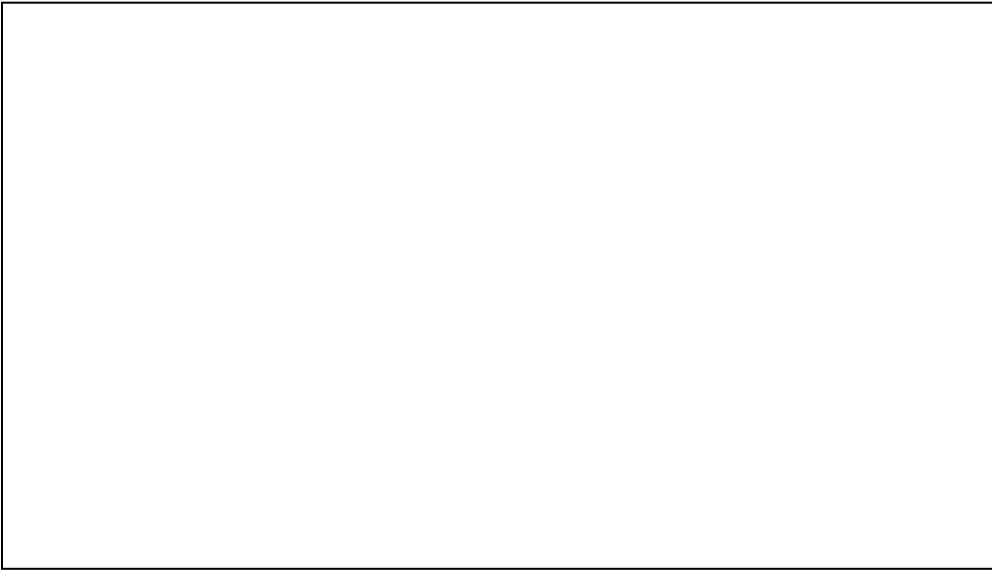
For Jennifer, it was her father's love of his job and positive Air Force experiences that ultimately influenced her decision to join.

Both enlistees head to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in late December for basic training. Daniel is slated to join the civil engineer

ranks as a heavy equipment operator. After graduating basic, Jennifer heads to technical school for information management.

High school graduates wanting to find out more about enlisting overseas can call Tech. Sgt. Willie Watkins at 489-7575 or visit www.af.mil. Click on the "Join the Air Force" link, then the adviser link, the recruiters overseas option and choose the appropriate recruiter.

Eifel Elite



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Airman 1st Class Jennifer Johnston, 52nd Communications Squadron official mail clerk, is this week's Top Saber Performer.

Top Saber Performer

Name: Airman 1st Class Jennifer Johnston
Unit/duty title: 52nd Communications Squadron official mail clerk
Hometown: Los Angeles
Time in service: Six months
Contributions to the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission success: "Since her arrival in March, Airman Johnston has continually displayed the initiative and expertise that makes her invaluable to postal operations. When not picking up or delivering the more than 10,000 pounds of official mail to 27 base-wide locations each week, she helps with the off-loading, sorting, pitching and redirecting more than 30,000 pounds of personal letters and parcels weekly," said Senior Master Sgt. Dennis Rickert, postal superintendent.
Off duty volunteerism and professional development pursuits: Assisted with Tops in Blue set-up, the wing's Patriot's Day ceremony, and changes of command; and is currently pursuing her Community College of the Air Force degree.
What do you do for fun? Or, what's a fun thing you've done lately? Reading and spending time with my children. I recently took a trip to Paris.
What do you like most about being stationed here? The traveling and the scenery.
What's one thing you'd like to see changed or improved at Spangdahlem Air Base: Renovations to, or new, military family housing units and more parking.



Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

The members of the 52nd Communications Squadron Postal Operations make up this week's Top Saber Team.

Top Saber Team

Unit name: 52nd Communications Squadron Postal Operations
Unit responsibilities: Process nearly 3 million pounds of incoming and outgoing letters, parcels and official mail for more than 13,700 military Department of Defense civilians, contractors, dependents and retirees at Spangdahlem Air Base, the Bitburg Annex and three geographically-separated units.
Number of members: 35 enlisted and three civilians.
How does the team fit into the 52nd Fighter Wing's mission? Since Sept. 11, real-world incidents have reinforced how vigilant and committed postal members are to ensuring Team Eifel's mail is safe. Both postal offices have completed numerous self-help projects and minor renovations to improve the appearance and efficiency of their work areas. Earlier this year, the Bitburg Post Office was recognized as U.S. Air Forces in Europe's "Best Small Post Office" for 2001. Additionally, post office members have committed more than 1,500 days this year in support of Air Expeditionary Force deployments, third country national escort duty, as well as security forces augmentees.

Protocol: More than just good manners

Two-member team plans for wing to put its best foot forward

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

Successful base tours, meetings and events don't just happen — they're created. The key to ensuring event success is all in the planning, according to Laurie McCoy, 52nd Fighter Wing Protocol Office chief.

The wing's two-member protocol team, which includes McCoy and Staff Sgt. Melanie Lehman, specializes in thinking of every detail for tours, meetings, retirement ceremonies, special dinners and other wing events. The goal is to ensure the wing always "puts its best foot forward," as McCoy puts it.

"We're the focal point bringing all the elements together based on our visitor's event requirements," McCoy explained.

Protocol members primarily support the wing commander by organizing distinguished visits for ranks O-6, E-8 and higher. However, as event organization subject-matter-experts, protocol also assists project officers planning squadron-level visits by providing advice, checklists and informational references. Capt. Eduardo Quero, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Distributions Flight commander, attributes much of this year's Spangdahlem Air Base Air Force Ball success to the wing protocol office's assistance.

"(Mrs. McCoy) was my right hand lady," said the project officer. "Protocol helped us with everything including invitations, organizing scripts and set up. Quite frankly, we couldn't have done it without (protocol's) help."



Staff Sgt. Melanie Lehman and Laurie McCoy, both from the protocol office, set up for the commander's spouse conference luncheon last week. The two specialize in thinking of every detail for tours, meetings, retirement ceremonies, special dinners and other wing events.

In addition to creating the right atmosphere, the protocol team also works hard at maintaining a low profile. Throughout tours and events, McCoy and Lehman work from the sidelines, orchestrating a seamless flow of events. The team has to keep at least one step ahead of the itinerary, ensuring the next stage of the event is ready for the guests' arrival.

"The hardest part is planning," McCoy said. "First you have to think through every minute detail and plan for it. Then, on the day of the event, it's like watching a wind-up toy in action. After we've done all the work, we put it on the table and the event goes on autopilot. Then we're just there to direct it."

Throughout September, the protocol team coordinated and assisted in planning eight

major base events including the POW/MIA, Sept. 11, senior NCO induction ceremonies, the Air Force Ball, Tops In Blue concert and a foreign military general officer base visit. Additionally throughout the year, Lehman worked solo while McCoy deployed to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, to provide Operation Northern Watch protocol support. Also, throughout the summer, the office planned and assisted with the numerous wing and squadron changes and assumptions of command that came with the wing restructuring.

Despite the demanding schedule - if there's an event or tour, they're there, even on weekends. Lehman says she loves the job's challenges, including the initial steep learning curve. For active-duty members, protocol is a

one-year special duty assignment, which offers no technical school instruction. New members learn how to create itineraries and event etiquette by referring to instructional books, attending workshops and most commonly, by tapping into the expertise of experienced protocol members. In December, Lehman will have completed her protocol assignment and begins training her active-duty successor.

One of the Lehman's favorite benefits of the assignment is meeting people and learning about the various Air Force career fields.

"When I travel with visitors on tours and see the briefings, I get to learn about the different jobs," said the former 22nd Fighter Squadron commander's support staff NCOIC. "It's been an eye-opener because before working here, I thought I knew what services or civil engineers did, but after going on the tours and seeing the briefings, I've gained a totally new perspective."

Creating an event itinerary may be protocol's job, but creating a successful event takes an entire team, often including the help of many wing agencies, McCoy said.

"Each project is so multifaceted that it requires everyone to do their job for the event to come off well. We can't cook the food, drive the van or set up the public address system. It's truly a collective effort when an event goes off without a hitch."

However, even the best-made plans are subject to unexpected changes, McCoy confessed. Just because problems surface, doesn't mean the event won't turn out a success.

"Murphy's Law is alive and well," said the 12-year protocol veteran. "There's things you can't forecast, you just have to learn how to react. Two things I've learned are to always have a back-up plan and know who to go to, to get the problem fixed."

Sergeant's repair hobby turns trashed trikes into rad bikes

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office

When Staff Sgt. Erik Bailey saw a couple of bikes in a Bitburg Annex bulk trash pile, the 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron munitions systems specialist thought, "What a waste."

Even though he didn't know of anyone who could use the bikes, Bailey fixed the flat tires and retouched the paint, in hopes of finding a child who would appreciate the well-used, but operational bikes.

Since that day two years ago, Bailey had amassed 18 bikes. Some were saved from the trash pile. Others were donated for Bailey's odd collection, which the staff sergeant parked as neatly as he could in his storage cubicle in the housing unit basement.

"At first, I was just finding and repairing the bikes because I didn't want to see them go to waste," he said. "Later, my plan was to collect enough bikes to give to an orphanage."

Although Bailey hadn't yet collected as many bikes as he would have liked, he moves this month so he had to quickly find a home for the bikes. With the help of the 52nd Fighter Wing Community Relations Office, they were donated to two local orphanages.

Does Bailey plan to continue his bike repair hobby at his next assignment?

"No," he confessed without hesitation. "It was easy and it saved some bikes which could be easily repaired from simply being thrown away, but I've done it long enough."

As a matter of fact, the systems specialist doesn't enjoy tinkering at home. His real love is gardening, but found the military housing facility window boxes too limiting.

"Fixing bikes was just a way to keep busy and make good use of what would otherwise just go to waste," he said.

Thrift savings plan open season available through end of year

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Civilian and military employees can sign up for or change current Thrift Savings Plan accounts during the "open season" from now through Dec. 31.

"TSP is an easy, long-term retirement savings plan that everyone should consider," said Maj. Alessandra Stokstad, chief of the contact center at the Air Force Personnel Center. "Current account holders might be interested, too, in transferring money from one fund to another. The TSP folks are set up to handle that.

"Either way, it's a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans," said Stokstad. "It's important to note that TSP is not limited to investing in stocks. People can choose safer government securities as well."

"Employees already contributing to the TSP are encouraged to review their TSP plan and account balances," said Janet Thomas of the center's civilian benefits and entitlements service team, "as the open season period is the best time to open an account or make changes to an existing one."

TSP offers investors the chance for lower taxes each year they contribute while not having to pay taxes on earnings until they reach retirement.

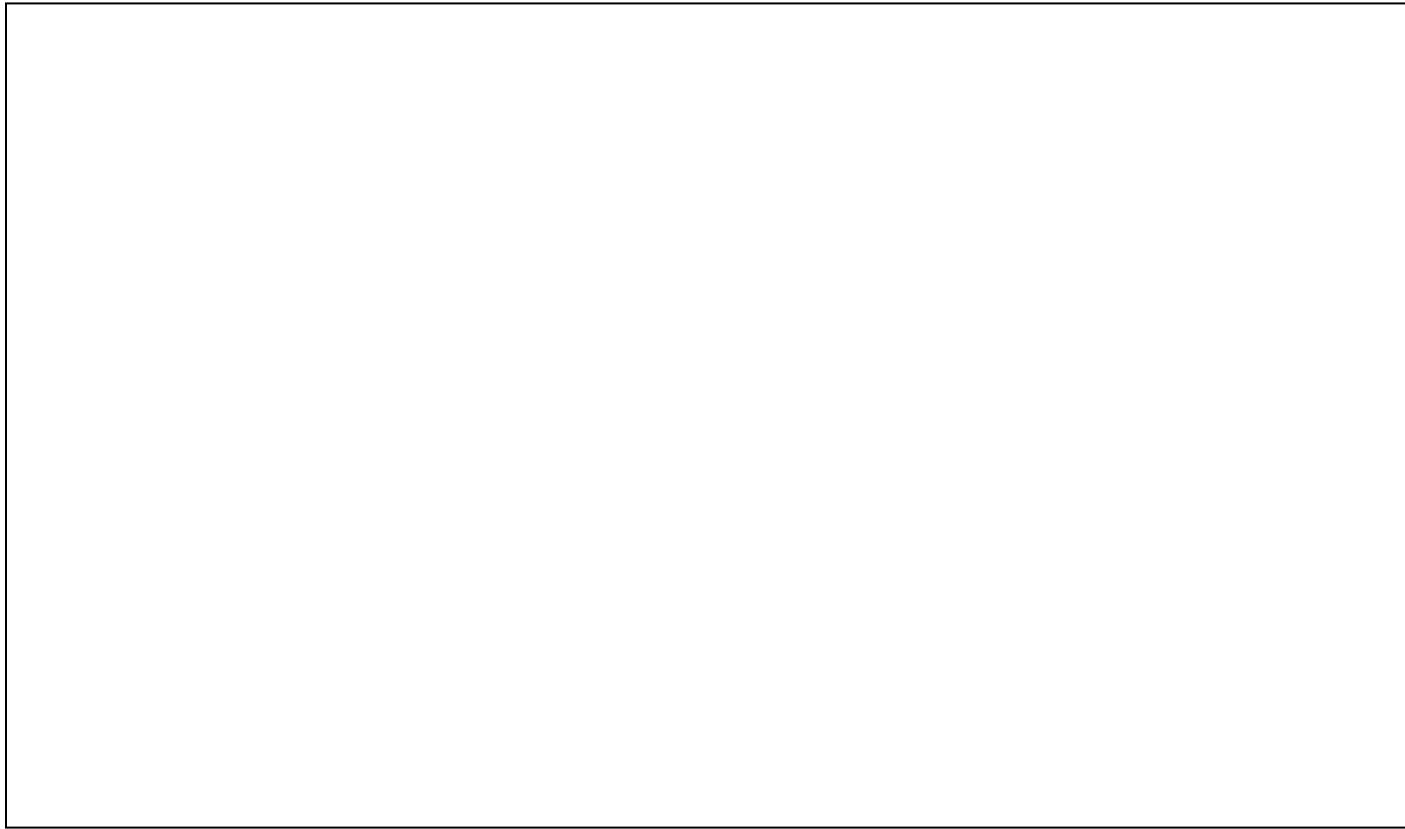
"You can take out loans and make withdrawals from your TSP account," said Thomas. "And you can keep your account even if you leave military or federal service."

Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck "so you never have to think about it," said Stokstad. "That makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while only investing what you deem appropriate. As with any individual retirement account, the sooner you begin contributing, the better."

Account changes made on or before Nov. 30 will take effect Dec. 1 for both military and civilian personnel. Changes made after Dec. 1 will become effective in the following pay period for civilians and the following month for military. (Air Force Print News)

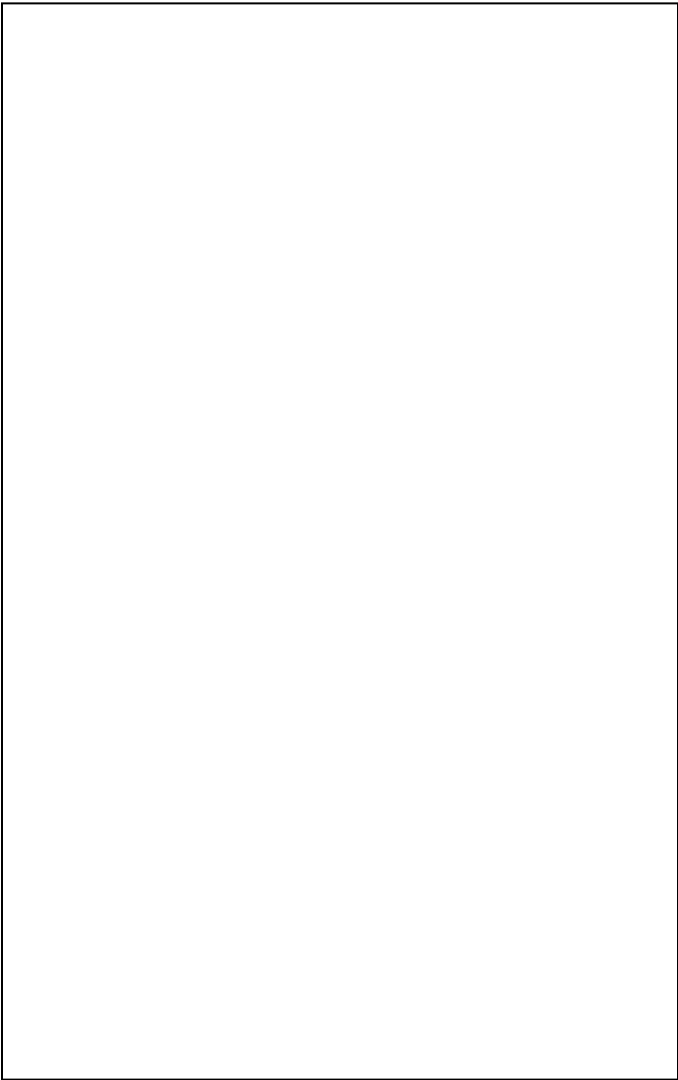
Staff Sgt. Erik Bailey, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron munitions systems specialist, and his spouse Tammy, gather bikes the couple recently donated to local orphanages. The couple collected and repaired about 18 bikes for teens and beginning riders.

Buechel 'dines in' at Cochem

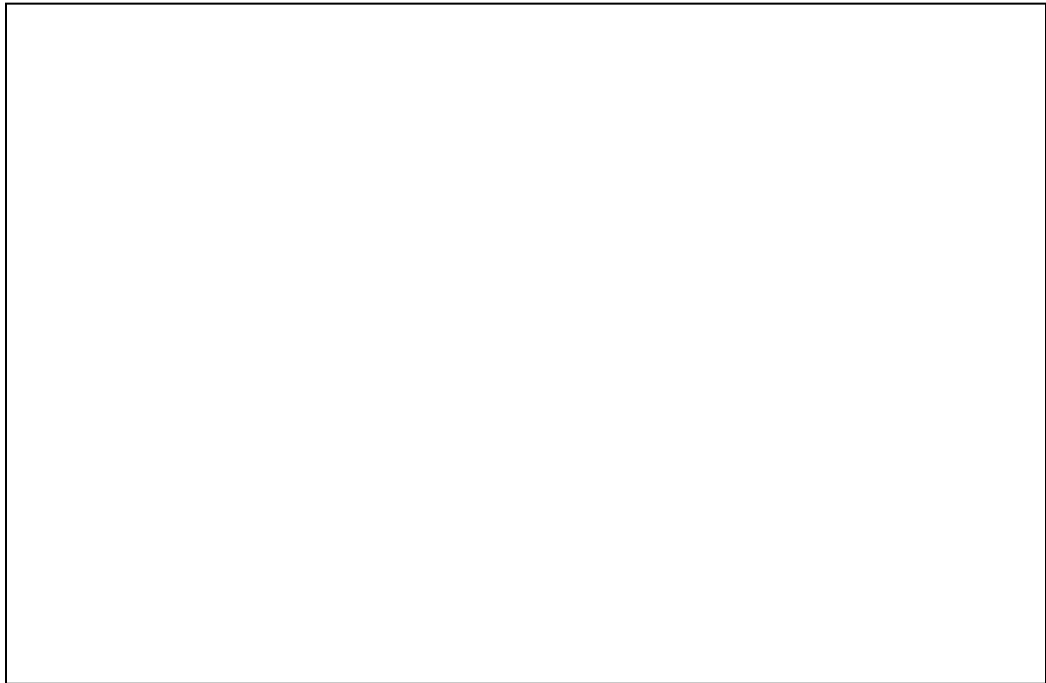


Staff Sgt. Matthew Montgomery and Tech. Sgt. Patrick Spade, 852nd Munitions Support Squadron, fill the crowd in on what the “grog” is, what it means and the contents of the grog at the unit’s dining-in at Cochem Castle Oct. 11. As with most ancient traditions, the origin of the dining-in is not clear. Formal dinners are rooted in antiquity. From pre-Christian Roman legions, to second century Viking warlords, to King Arthurs’s knights in the sixth century, feasts to honor military victories and individual and unit achievements have been a custom.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Karen Z. Silcott



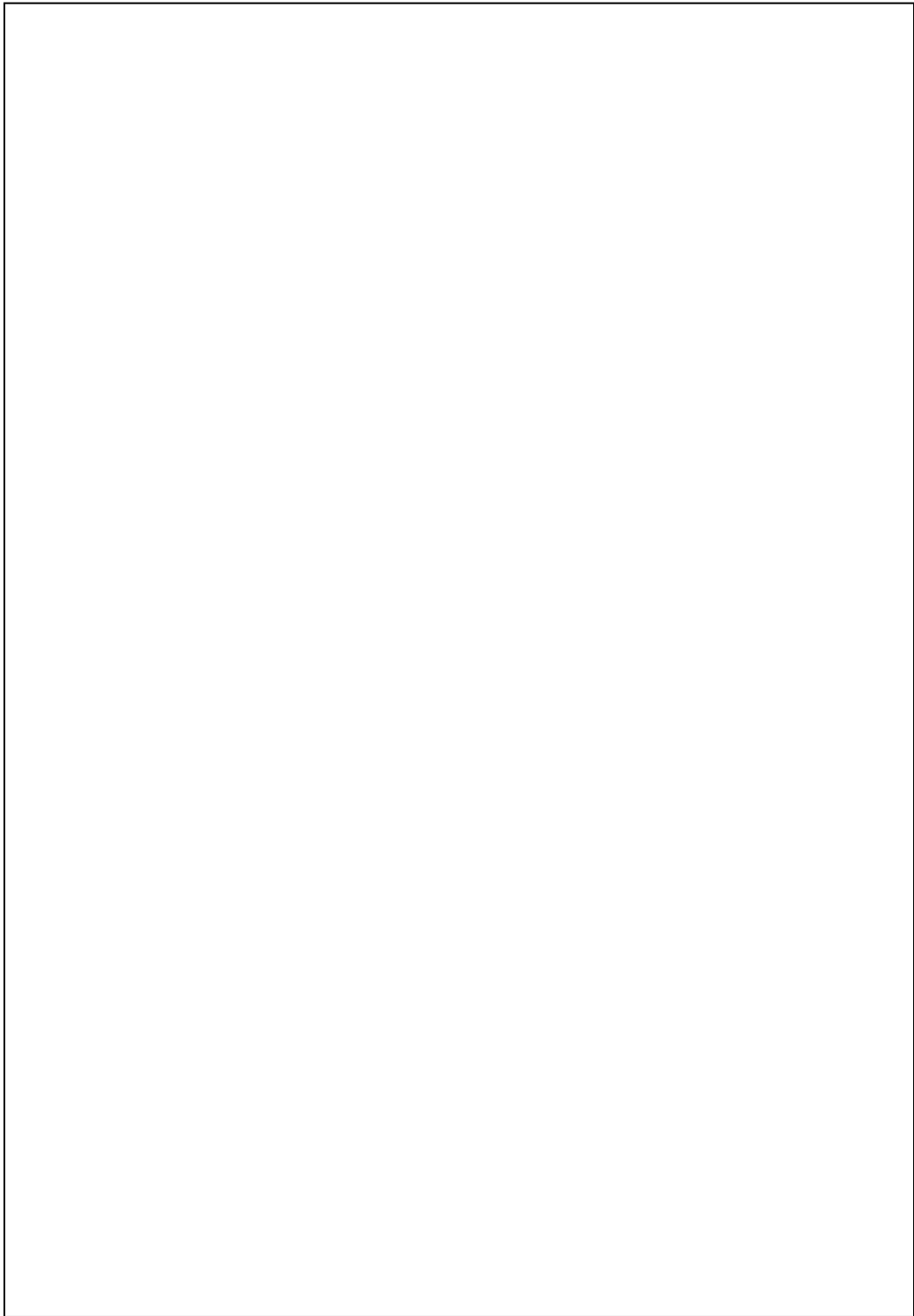
Tech. Sgt. Patrick Spade, 852nd MUNSS, adds ingredients to the grog. The purpose of the dining-in is to bring together the members of a unit in an atmosphere of camaraderie, good fellowship and social rapport.



The 852nd MUNSS enjoy the dining-in. According to protocol references, the Air Force dining-in custom probably began in the 1930s with the late Gen. H. Hap Arnold’s “wing-dings.” The dining-in has served the Air Force well as an occasion to enhance esprit of units, as well as giving the commander an opportunity to meet socially with his troops.



One of the “Lords of the Manor” presents gifts to all U.S. commanders at the dining-in during social hour. Prior to the gift exchange, the Lords of the Manor gave a demonstration explaining the history of the castle and their “responsibilities” of the castle.



Cochem Castle, which is about 45 minutes from Spangdahlem Air Base, was the site for the 852nd Munitions Support Squadron’s dining-in Oct. 11. The dining-in is a formal dinner for members of a wing, unit or other organization.

Community Mailbox

Singles dinner

A singles dinner takes place Oct. 24 from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Air Base Chapel. Members of the Spangdahlem Spouses and Enlisted Members Club will serve Italian food. Call 452-6711 for more information.

AFSA news

The Air Force Sergeant's Association Chapter 1681 membership meeting takes place Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. in the Spang Club. Chapter members and people interested in joining the AFSA are encouraged to attend. Light snacks and beverages will be served at 11:15 a.m.

College courses

Weekend courses in college algebra, and aircraft crash and emergency management start Oct. 26. Also, a three-weekend course in air carrier operations starts Nov. 1. Call the Embry-Riddle University branch office at 452-7553 for details.

Youth activity

The chapel sponsored AWANAS club meets each Thursday at 6 p.m. at Spangdahlem Middle School. Activities are geared for school aged children. Children ages 3-4 may attend if the parents volunteer. E-mail eifelawanas@yahoo.com or call Call 06562-932189 for more information.

Haunted house

A haunted house opens for visitors Oct. 29-31 from 6-8 p.m. near Bitburg Annex buildings 2032 and 2033. Cost is \$3. The house features 20 rooms and a cemetery. Call Tech. Sgt. Harold Ayers at 452-6132 for more information.

Singers wanted

Christmas choir organizers seek singers for a non-denominational choir. Duets and solos are also being considered. Practice takes place each Tuesday and Thursday from 7-8:30 p.m. through December. Call Larisa Kennedy at 06562-931258 for details.

Youth play

Noemi Fant's fourth grade class performs a play about the United Nations Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Spangdahlem Elementary School cafeteria. The International Nibble Fest follows the performance. Call 452-6881 for more information.

Divorce workshop

Caring for children through divorce takes



Staff Sgt. Jennifer Lindsey

Fire parade

Members of the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Fire Protection Flight parade through the Bitburg Annex housing area Oct. 12. Firefighters handed out candy to children watching the parade from the sidewalk. The fire protection flight puts on the annual celebration to remind the local community about fire safety.

place Oct. 28 from 1-3 p.m. in Spangdahlem Air Base building 161. Call Connie Ketchum at 452-8279 for more information.

MOPS playgroup

Mothers of Preschoolers meet Monday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Spangdahlem Air Base building 139. Call the base chapel at 452-6711 or e-mail spangmops@yahoo.com for more information.

Polish pottery trip

A shopping trip to Bolesawiec, Poland, takes place Nov. 1-3. Cost is \$70 for a single seat, plus a \$7 border fee. Call 452-9491 to register or for details.

Red Ribbon event

The 2nd Annual Red Ribbon Ride starts Nov. 1 at 1 p.m. from Spangdahlem Middle School. The event features 10-kilometer and 20-kilometer bike rides for adults. A new shorter kid's course features age group divisions. Finishers and owners of the best decorated bikes win sports bottles and other prizes. Helmets are mandatory for all riders. Call 452-6559 to register or for details.

Family support

The following workshops take place in Spangdahlem Air Base building 307. Call 452-9491 to register.

■Preseparation consultation, Monday and Oct. 28 from 9-10:30 a.m.

■Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Tuesday and Oct. 29 from 8-9 a.m.

■Resume writing, Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon.

■German bills made easy, Oct. 31 from 8-9:30 a.m.

The following workshops take place in Bitburg Annex building 2001.

■Creative critters, Monday and Oct. 28 from 10-11 a.m.

■Predeployment briefing for active-duty and family members, Wednesday from 8-9 a.m.

■Mutual Funds basics, Thursday from 6-8 p.m.

■Career profiling, Oct. 29 from 1-3:30 p.m.

■“Please understand me” communications workshop, Oct. 30 from 6-8 p.m.

■IRA basics, Oct. 31 from 6-8 p.m.

Community activities center

The following events take place in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center in building 124. Call 452-7381 for more information.

■ACT-Eifel presents “Dead Man's Hand” today through Sunday and Oct. 25-26. A special wine and cheese tasting show takes place today at 6 p.m. Cost is \$10 adults, \$4 children 12 and younger. All other shows cost \$8 adults, \$4 children.

■“Rocky Horror Picture Show,” Oct. 31 from 7-11 p.m. Event features movie, dancing and door prizes. Movie is rated R, adults must accompany youth younger than 17. Cost is \$2 or free for customers dressed as movie characters.

Pet care news

The Pet Spa is located in Oberweiss building 1044. Call 452-9362 for more information or to register.

■PCSing pets must have a health certificate signed by a veterinarian and dated no more than 10 days before travel. Also, all shots must be current.

■Transportation to the Pet Spa kennels

takes place each Wednesday. Registration deadline is (close of business) Tuesday. The bus departs Spangdahlem Air Base lodging at 5:15 p.m. and Bitburg Annex lodging at 5:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per family.

Craft classes

Tole painting, Oct. 29 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Bitburg Annex building 2001. Cost is \$20, plus the cost of wood. Call the Craft Corner at 452-4141 or visit the shop located next to the base commissary to register.

LOR card game

The Eifel Coffee Mill's first “Lord of the Rings” card tournament takes place Oct. 26 at 2 p.m. in Spangdahlem Air Base building 139. The tourney lasts four rounds and takes about four hours to complete. Each player must bring their own cards to compete. Call Larry Hutson at 06553-900331 for details.

Holiday bazaar news

Eifel Holiday Bazaar 2002 takes place Nov. 15 from noon to 8 p.m., Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Nov. 17 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Hangars 1 and 2. The event, sponsored by the Officer's and Civilian's Spouses Club, features more than 130 vendors from all over Europe. Proceeds benefit the Eifel military community. No strollers are allowed.

Event organizers seek volunteers to help in various capacities. For more information, or to volunteer, call Kelli Owens at 06571-147977.

Library news

■Children's storytime, each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Bitburg Annex Library. Call 452-9056 for details.

■Youth ghost story contest, submissions accepted through Oct. 31 at Spangdahlem AB and Bitburg Annex libraries. Stories will be judged in age categories. Call 452-6203 for details.

■Reading group, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Bitburg Annex Library. Meet with others the last Tuesday of each month who are reading featured books. October's book is “Nothing is Impossible: Reflections on a New Life,” by Christopher Reeve. Call 452-9056 for details.

Developmental screening

Infant and toddler developmental screenings take place each first, third and fifth Monday monthly from 9-11 a.m. in the Educational and Developmental Intervention Services clinic. The clinic is in Spangdahlem Air Base building 161. EDIS also offers screenings each second and fourth Monday in the Bitburg Annex Chapel. Call 452-8238 for more information.

Support groups

Helping Hands, a support group for parents of children with special needs such as autistic spectrum disorders, pervasive developmental disorders and Down's syndrome. For more information, call Capt. Michelle Ambrose at 452-8238 or 06565-958238.

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Col. Stephen Mueller

Accessing Direct Line

The Direct Line program is a
way to get answers to questions
you still have after using your
chain of command.

Direct Lines of general
interest will be published in the
Eifel Times and may be edited or
paraphrased for brevity or clarity.
Submit your Direct Line via:

■DirectLine@spangdahlem.a
f.mil

■Mailed to 52nd FW/PA,
Unit 3680 Box 220, APO AE
09126

■To PA in building 23.
■Concerns may also be sent
via fax to 452-5254.

Anonymous inputs are
accepted. To receive a personal
response you must include your
name and phone number. Call the
Eifel Times at 452-5244 for more
information.

Number of days
since last DUI:

11

You have a choice.
Call Airmen Against
Drunk Driving
at 452-2233.

As of Wednesday

Viewpoint

Oct. 18, 2002

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Media and the Air Force

Engaging with members of the media

(Editor's note: This letter was sent out to Air Force commanders by William C. Bodie, the new director of Air Force communications.)

During the past year, you and your staffs have done a magnificent job of reaching out to the press and public about our mission and our people in operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. Recently, however, there have been several media reports quoting named and unnamed senior Air Force officers opining on operational issues and even U.S. government policy on global political-military issues. Regrettably, these reports, however well intentioned, do not help the Air Force.

Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper and I need your help in reinforcing several basic messages to your teams. We need our officers and enlisted people to interact with the news media, because we have an important, indeed inspiring set of stories and issues to tell. Journalists also have an important job to do, and we should respect the work of our free press, even as we recognize that their professional responsibilities do not always mirror our own.

We just need all our folks to engage wisely, following these simple rules of engagement: Stay in your lane, and feel free to discuss your areas of expertise, systems, people and goals, while always

protecting classified information. On issues of policy and national strategy, don't speculate or offer "personal" views — defer instead to those whose job it is to articulate policy matters and perspectives. And on issues that related to sensitive and classified information, simply decline to engage — period.

Your public affairs team can help. They'll identify appropriate media opportunities, prepare you to engage effectively, establish the right ground rules for reporters, fly topcover during the interview, and perform whatever follow-up tasks may be necessary. Use them to help you take every opportunity to tell our story responsibly.

Teams and team players

Making sure the team comes first

By Lt. Col. Pat Malackowski
81st Fighter Squadron commander

My mind keeps racing, start with the end in sight ... I think that is always the most effective way to plan - start with the end in sight.

Col. Stephen Mueller, 52nd Fighter Wing commander, asked his commanders to "share their wisdom" in these editorials in order for our Air Force family to stay informed and aware of issues affecting the wing's airmen and their families.

I'm not sure the folks who know me would ever accuse me of having wisdom. However, that being said, what follows is something I believe in, as well as something that is a guiding light in my life.

"The team comes first," Coach Fisher DeBerry, the now famous (in coaching circles and collegiate athletics) head coach of the U.S. Air Force Academy's football team, told the gathered group. I heard those words for the first time in January 1984.

It doesn't seem so long ago now but it's been almost 19 years and those simple words still ring true in my life.

You see, I believe those words -- I believe the "team" does come first!

Now, how one defines their teams is important. For me, it is the team with my family, friends, my spiritual health, the team with the 81st FS, the 52nd FW and the USAF, and eventually my team with society as a whole. That is a lot to chew on so I will limit this to how I believe I make a difference as a team player in our Air Force.

Encarta defines team as: "a number of people organized to function cooperatively as a group." This describes our U.S. Air Force, doesn't it?

Encarta continues with team player: "someone who is willing to work cooperatively with others and to subordinate personal interests in order to achieve a common goal." The willingness to subordinate one's interests so as to accomplish a common goal ...

Wow, pretty noble stuff one might think. Selflessness comes to my mind through one of our Air Force core values -- Service Before Self. It's something we hold close, a character trait that defines each and every one of us as airmen.

Remember the analogy about only being as strong as the weakest link? I know this is true. I know from more than 20 years in the Air Force and from all my life-experiences. I know that true strength in a team setting is a by-product of each and everyone's contributions rather than a lone specific contribution made by an individual.

For example, we don't win wars just because the fighter or bomber pilot puts bombs on target. Who positioned the bombs on the aircraft? Who delivered the bombs to the flight line? Who accounted for those same bombs? Who fed those folks? How many service members were on the personnel support for contingency operations, or PERSCO, team that processed people into the expeditionary air base? Who is taking care of the families and children back home? Who is driving those same kids to their scout trips and after school activities?

This "list" of team players gets pretty long but the point remains that if each person on this list doesn't give their level best, then our team probably won't be as effective putting bombs on target as we should be.

I could go on and on but the reality is it takes the entire unit, all of us team players, to be effective and combat-ready. That's our job; being fully mission and combat-ready. If one of us puts our personal desires before the team's, then we run the risk of not accomplishing our goals. If we put the team first and are willing to subordinate our "individual" interests to remain fully mission-ready there is no doubt that we will be effective when called upon.

Where is the wisdom, the reader asks? The wisdom is found in the simplicity of the message. I believe our team goal is combat mission-readiness. Therefore, if I do my part, accomplish my duty to the best of my ability and put the team's goals first, I won't create a weakness that may limit our effectiveness.

My contributions are no more or less important than any one else's but they do make a difference and I know there is real value in that. In fact, there is a whole base community that depends on those contributions to remain mission and combat-ready.

Energy Awareness Month

By Master Sgt. Darryl G. Knowles
Wing energy manager

"Hey Ed, turn on the TV, I want to watch my new DVD." "Sorry Bill, there's no power." "But why?" yells Bill. Ed goes on to say "Well if you hadn't left the lights on all the time, the refrigerator door open, and the windows up everyday last winter we would be doing ok. But now we don't have enough power left to pop a bag of popcorn."

It could be worse; it could have been the mission but this hasn't happened yet. It's well known the United States is overly dependent on foreign energy supplies. Until safe, reliable, and abundant sources are available we must reduce our dependence. By reducing our consumption we are buying precious

time to develop newer technologies to reduce or eliminate current reliance on non-domestic supplies. To promote this energy conservation, Presidential Executive Order 13123 mandates all government facilities to reduce energy consumption by 35 percent in 2010 compared to 1985.

To aid in this effort, October was designated as Energy Awareness Month. This year's theme is "A Secure Energy Future." Past experience shows public energy awareness can conservatively save two percent of the wing's energy bills. Two percent may not sound like much, but it equates to \$86,000. This is money we can use to accomplish additional work for the wing. Heightening public awareness on how to help conserve energy can bring about a change of personal

habits so we will all have a better energy future.

- Here is a list of items we can all do to help:
- Turn off lights when leaving an area.
 - Use "sleep" mode instead of monitor screen savers. This will reduce the electric load 93 percent.
 - Turn monitors off when not at a workstation — saves \$36.80 annually.
 - The average personal computer left on all night costs \$459.90 annually.
 - Laser printers use 300 watts of power; inkjets use only 10 watts, for similar quality.
 - For three copies or less, use the printer; for more, use the copier.

Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless indicated. More synopsis information is available at www.aafes.com/ems/default.asp.

Bitburg Castle

Today

Fear Dot Com (R)

Starring Stephen Dorff and Natascha Mcelhone. If you click “yes” - and you know you want to - you’ll be logged on to the internet site feardot.com, and the game begins. What follows is a miasma of hellish images that leave unsuspecting voyeurs suffering from morbid hallucinations and unspeakable terror. (Images of torture, nudity and language.)

Saturday

Stuart Little II (PG)

Starring Geena Davis and Hugh Laurie. Round two of the life of mouse Stuart Little. The sequel focuses on family, love and freedom. Stuart isn’t the baby anymore either. (Language.)

Sunday

Fear Dot Com

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

Country Bears (G)

Starring Haley Joel Osment and Christopher Walken. Beary is a ten-year-old cub, who is raised by a human family unaware that he is adopted until his jealous brother tells him. When Beary leaves home to find out where he belongs, he’s led to the Country Bear Hall in Tennessee and befriends the now defunct band, the Country Bears. The once successful and highly influential 1970s band, reunite for a benefit concert.

Thursday

Road to Perdition (R, 10 p.m.)

Starring Tom Hanks and Paul Newman. Michael Sullivan is a hit man for an Irish gang in the Depression-era Midwest. When his work crosses into his private life, leading to the death of his beloved wife and son, Sullivan and his surviving son set out on a journey of revenge. (Violence and language.)

Spangdahlem Skyline

Today

Master of Disguise (PG)

Starring Dana Carvey and Jennifer Esposito. A comedy for kids, Pistachio Disguisey is an Italian waiter who discovers he possesses Energico, a spiritual energy that allows him to transform into anything from cherry pie to Robert Shaw. He takes on spy work as a second profession using his new-found “energy.” (Language and crude humor.)

City by the Sea (R, 10 p.m.)

Starring Robert De Niro and James Franco. Vincent LaMarca, a NYPD detective, discovers murder is a common denominator in his family. While his father’s crimes were heinous enough, Vincent discovers his son may be on the same path. In the midst of a Long Beach murder investigation, evidence points to Joey as the prime suspect. The film is based on actual events in the life of Vincent LaMarca. (Language, drug use and violence.)

Saturday

City by the Sea

Austin Powers in Goldmember (PG-13, 10 p.m.)

Starring Michael Caine and Heather Graham. Goldmember and Dr. Evil hatch a time-traveling scheme to take over the world. As Austin chases the villains through time, he joins forces with his old flame, Foxy Cleopatra. Together they must find a way to stop Dr. Evil and Goldmember from their mischievous mayhem. (Sexual innuendo, crude humor and language.)

Sunday

Master of Disguise

Monday

Austin Powers in Goldmember

Tuesday

City by the Sea

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.
For the most current information,
call 452-9441.

Hole in one!

Don Brown, European manager for TRANSCAR, and Tracy Dumas, 52nd Logistics Readiness Squadron, take a shot at the new golf simulator at the Spangdahlem Air Base Golf Course. Brown and Dumas, along with Thomas Danley, 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron, and Sonny Gomez, who recently PCSd, all shot holes-in-one on the actual course this summer. As the weather continues to decline in the Eifel, people can take advantage of the golf simulator by calling the golf course at 452-6821. The simulator, which costs \$10 an hour, allows two golfers to play nine holes in an hour. Foursomes can complete the nine-hole course in two hours.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Cook

Barons win non-conference match

By Rik Carr
Bitburg High School

The Bitburg Barons played the Patch Panthers in a non-conference game this weekend. Field conditions and the weather didn’t cooperate, but the Barons were able to put together a 14-6 victory.

Quarterback BJ Phillips wasted no time as he put the Barons on the board with the first play. With both receivers deep and open, he threw the strike to tight end Brandon Morales for a 67-yard touchdown.

The duo of kicker Andy Flores and holder Tom Mueller teamed up for the extra point. Adverse field conditions played havoc with both teams throughout the game with poor footing and slippery balls causing many miscues on both teams.

Patch was able to put together a late

second-quarter drive and score a TD before the first half ended, but a Christian Cornell blocked extra point put the game at 7-6 at the end of the half.

Third-quarter action was more on the defensive side and it wasn’t until the fourth quarter that the Barons would seal the victory on a 10-play 84-yard drive as Phillips took the ball in from the four on an option play. Flores and Mueller put up another extra point giving the Barons a 14-6 lead and ensuring the victory.

It was again the Braden Blake-Jeremy Ponce show as these talented linebackers teamed up for 24 solo tackles and nine assists, three solos in the Patch backfield.

They kept the Panthers at bay throughout the day and made some crushing stops to the running attack of the Panthers.

Junior-varsity action

In junior varsity, fifth-quarter action, neither team had much time to get anything going. The 12-minute running clock was much too short to showcase any play.

Bitburg is now tied with Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, who they host this weekend. for second place. The Barons must win this week against SHAPE. With a 3-2 overall and 1-1 league record, the Spartans visit Bitburg for the homecoming match.

The winner will proceed to the play-offs in Naples, Italy. The other team’s season will end. JV action gets under way at 10:30 a.m. and a full game will be played. Varsity kick-off is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Out and About

Eifel Falcons
By Capt. Bill Rogers
Falcons coach

Playing under the lights on a cold, misty autumn evening, the Eifel Falcons turned in another stellar performance against host Baumholder Warriors, winning 34-18.

The Falcons got off to a slow start after allowing the Warriors to score on their first possession but regained their composure enough to lead at halftime, 13-12.

After Josh Collett opened up the second half with a thrilling 72-yard kickoff return for his second touchdown of the game, the Falcons exploded for 21 points in the second half to seal the victory.

Jaques Abram had a dominating rushing performance, grinding out 150 yards, scoring on runs of 69 and 38 yards. Will Rogers, combing with his brother, CJ, for 16 tackles, had one interception, scrambled for a 47-yard touchdown and added extra points rushing and throwing, hitting Scott McQuiston in the corner of the end zone.

Abram and Collett each had a run for 1-point conversions, with Collett also stealing an interception. Chris Ramos, who also saw time at center and fullback, and Matt Hurst turned in exceptional

defensive performances. The Falcons, improving to 4 -1, travel to Baumholder Saturday to play the Vilseck Bills at 2 p.m.

Volksmarch club

The Eifel Wanderers volksmarching club visits Frankenstein’s Castle Oct. 26. Cost is \$37. Also, the club general meeting takes place Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. at Zum Stein Gasthaus in Metterich. Call Theresa Stevens at 06569-963184 to register or for details.

Recreational trips

Outdoor recreation sponsors the following trips in October. The minimum age for trips is 12, unless listed otherwise. Call 452-7176 or visit the shop in Spangdahlem Air Base building 146, near the Mosel Hall dining facility for details

- Advanced cave rappelling, Nov. 2. Cost is \$45.
- Baltic Sea Cod fishing trip, Nov. 9. Cost is \$85 with gear rental, \$75 with own gear.
- Underground mountain biking and rappelling, Nov. 10. Cost is \$45.